



Bill Richardson
GOVERNOR

State of New Mexico
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Ground Water Quality Bureau

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Ron Curry
SECRETARY

Derrith Watchman-Moore
DEPUTY SECRETARY

CERTIFIED MAIL –RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 12, 2006

Mr. Ned Hall
Chino Mines Company
P.O. Box 7
Hurley, New Mexico 88043

RE: Approval of Remedial Action Work Plan (RA Work Plan)
Hurley Soils Investigative Unit (HSIU)
Chino Administrative Order on Consent (AOC)

Dear Mr. Hall:

On January 17, 2006 the Chino Mines Company (Chino) submitted a RA Work Plan for interim remedial actions to be taken to address soils in Hurley, New Mexico that are contaminated as a result of Chino's operations. The Mining Environmental Compliance Section of the Ground Water Quality Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) provided Chino Mines Company (Chino) with comments on the RA Work Plan in a letter dated March 1, 2006. Chino provided a response to those comments in a letter dated March 3, 2006. In a correspondence dated March 7, 2006 NMED conditionally approved the RA Work Plan conditioned upon Chino updating and submitting a revised RA Work Plan based on Chino's March 3, 2006 letter. NMED has received and reviewed the updated RA Work Plan dated April 7, 2006.

NMED hereby approves the RA Work Plan for the HSIU. Please be advised that modifications to the RA Work Plan for the HSIU may be required if the soil contaminants result in ground water contamination, or if additional information becomes available indicating that the Revised RA Work Plan is inadequate for the protection of public health and the environment.



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If you have any questions please contact me at 505-827-1046.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "CEustice".

Chris Eustice, Project Manager
Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department

Cc:

Phil Harrigan, NMED
Mary Ann Menetrey, NMED
Mark Purcell, USEPA
Mara Seeley, Gradient Corporation
Robert Quintanar, Phelps Dodge Chino Mines
Robert North, CWG Chairman
Sharon Morgan, CWG Vice Chairman
Sally Smith, CWG Secretary